



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

URALIST, we would say that the terms used in describing the different species are explained and illustrated in the April number, and that a general account of their habits and anatomy may be found in the March number.

---

## REVIEWS.

---

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE AND MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE. Edited by *William A. Hammond, M.D.* Vol. I. Nos. 1, 2. July, October, 1867. Quarterly, 8vo. A. Sampson & Co., New York.

Our notice of this journal, which fills an important gap in medical literature, has been long delayed. It will also interest many of our readers, as it bears on those subjects in which all naturalists, especially physiologists, are most interested. The three leading articles are contributed by the Editor. The article On Instinct, its Nature and Seat, gives an excellent summary of the views of various writers on a subject on which much has been written without reaching satisfactory results.

The author's views may be summarized thus: Animals perform three sets of actions; 1st, *reflex*, such as eating, breathing, respiration. "The new-born child does not breathe because of a 'natural blind impulse' to do so, but because the placental connection with its mother, by which its blood was oxygenated, having been severed, and the stimulus of atmospheric air having been applied to its skin, an impression is conveyed to the nervous centres, it is reflected to the respiratory muscles, and breathing takes place." This is a reflex action of the nervous system. It is not instinctive or an act of the reason. 2d, *instinctive*, which are "the result of impressions received from within." "Instinct is that innate faculty which organic beings possess, by which they are enabled or impelled to perform acts without being prompted by the intellectual powers, and even in direct opposition thereto." Dr. Hammond, from whom we have quoted, further states that "instinctive acts are not the result of instruction or experience. This is one of the most prominent points wherein the actions in question differ from those which are the result of intelligence and reason." 3d, *rational*. These are, as the author states, of

"eccentric origin, due to impressions conveyed to the mind through the senses and nerves."

Instinct is strongest in the lower animals, and the new-born of the higher. The young acts first by instinct, until experience and contact with the outer world awakens the dormant reason.

The author thinks that instinct is capable of improvement, that it can be educated through a series of generations, so that "the intelligence of former generations becomes converted into instinct in the descendants." Instances of the aberration of instinct are also common; it is not unerring. All organized beings have instinct. "Plants have instinct; that is, a force co-existent with their growth, and implanted originally in the seed, which impels them to the performance of actions, calculated to preserve their existence, or secure their well being."

We refer the reader to the article itself for facts in illustration of these statements.

---

## NATURAL HISTORY MISCELLANY.

---

### BOTANY.

BOTANICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.—Is *Tillandsia usneoides*, the "Black" or "Long Moss" of the Southern States, strictly an epiphyte, or in some sort a parasite? I was once informed by a very intelligent person, that in Florida, where the *Tillandsia* is used by lumbermen as fodder for cattle, the plant always withered and died when the tree that bore it was cut down, showing that it is not merely epiphytic upon the dead surface of the bark. The point is worth investigating. My attention is recalled to this point by a paper on *The Relation of Lichen-growth to the health and value of Trees*, read by Dr. Lindsay before the last meeting of the British Association. Noting that arboriculturists generally regard Lichens as detrimental to the trees they grow on, Dr. Lindsay adduces, in confirmation of that view, the fact that Lichens of the sort, such as *Usnea*, *Ramalina*, etc., contain silica, alumina, lime, potash, phosphates, etc., which could not have been derived from the atmosphere, but must have come from the foster-tree. It does not certainly follow, however, that the Lichen is parasitic, as Dr. Lindsay is disposed to think, for the thallus may as well take up these earthy elements from the dead and decaying bark, and be without connection or contact with any living part of the tree. The general opinion of nurserymen and tree-growers is, that Lichens feed upon the tree, or at least in some way injure it.—A. GRAY.